IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 5 and 9-24 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 4, 6 and 8 as indicated below.

Please add claim 25 as indicated below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended)   A computer implemented method for queue order notification comprising:

receiving a queue entry request, wherein said queue entry request comprises contact information of a patron, wherein said queue entry request comprises a notification criterion specifying at which point said patron is to be notified;

(a)   determining a current position of [[a]] said patron in [[a]] said queue;

(b)   determining a current estimated time remaining for said patron using the current position of the patron and a selected set of historical data; and

(c)   transmitting queue order information to the patron using a preselected communication channel, and wherein the queue order information comprises a patron-selectable set of queue order information, the patron-selectable set including the current estimated time remaining and the current position of the patron in the queue.

Claim 2 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the set of historical data comprises a queue servicing rate for a preceding time interval, the estimated time remaining determined using a linear extrapolation with said queue servicing rate.

Claim 3 (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the queue servicing rate comprises a rate at which patrons have been served between a current time and a preceding notification time and wherein the set of historical data further comprises seasonal average patron service rates.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the <u>determining and transmitting</u> steps ~~(a), (b) and (e)~~ are repeated at a ~~preselected notification criterion, and wherein a preselected notification interval comprises a~~ patron-selected <u>time interval notification criterion</u>.

Claim 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

~~(d)~~ notifying the patron upon reaching a head of the queue using the communication channel; and

~~(e)~~ in response to the patron failing to respond after an expiry of a predetermined time interval after <u>said previous step</u> ~~step (d)~~, moving the patron to another position within the queue.

Claim 7 (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the another position within the queue is an end of the queue.

Claim 8 (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

~~(d)~~   in response to the patron being at the head of the queue, determining if the patron can be accommodated; and

~~(e)~~   in response to the patron not being accommodated, interchanging the current position of the patron and position of a next patron in the queue.

Claims 9-24 (cancelled)

Claim 25 (new) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said queue entry request is transmitted by said patron via one of the following: a web page form, and an electronic mail message.